



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Whitman et al.

Serial No.: 09/996,423

Filed: November 28, 2001

For: SPIN COATING FOR MAXIMUM
FILL CHARACTERISTIC YIELDING A
PLANARIZED THIN FILM SURFACE

Confirmation No.: 2810

Examiner: T. Pham

Group Art Unit: 2823

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-4294.3US
(98-1208.03/US)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 21, 2004
Date

Signature

Deidra J. Pfeil

Name (Type/Print)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

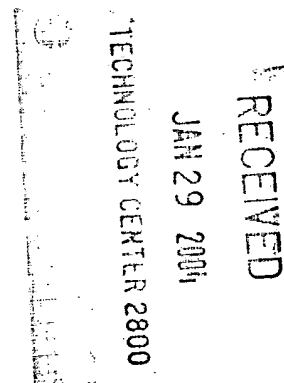
Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on October 21, 2003, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on January 21, 2004.

Amendments to the claims are set forth in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

Drawing corrections are identified on page 7 of this paper, with drawing sheets including annotations and replacement sheets of drawings being enclosed; and

Remarks start at page 8 of this paper.



IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed are sheets of drawings that identify corrections to be made to FIGs. 6 and 14, as well as replacement sheets that include the corrections. In FIG. 6, previously omitted element 21 has been included. In FIG. 14, previously omitted element 49 has been included.

The sheets on which these drawings are located respectively include FIGs. 4-6 and FIGs. 14-16.